

Senate Bill 202  
Independent Science Review for  
Natural Resources

Senate Environment and Natural  
Resources Committee

March 18, 2015

# Why SB 202?

- Natural resource policy - complex, controversial
  - Science an important piece
- Oregon history of science review
  - Independent Multidisciplinary Science Team (IMST) reports to agencies, Governor (1997 salmon and streams legislation)
  - Institute for Natural Resources (INR) reports to agencies, Governor
  - Agency contracts
- Other examples:
  - Washington State Academy of Sciences
  - National Academy of Sciences

# SB 202

- Starting point for stakeholder discussions
- Update Oregon's independent science review
  - Broad range of natural resource issues
  - What we have learned
  - Task force recommendations to Legislature, Governor – who, what, how
  - Independent – “not subject to control of others”
    - Important question for task force
- Repeal 1997 IMST statute

# SB 202 -1 Amendments

## Principles for -1 amendments:

- Leverage existing organization to convene scientists (rather than create new entity)
- Open process that inspires public confidence, but does not compromise independence of scientific review
- Enhance involvement of Oregon's universities

# SB 202- Additional Amendments

Stakeholder input includes:

- Do not predetermine INR or other entity
- Task force membership include:
  - Scientists (include review experience)
  - Forest, agriculture, manufacturing
  - Conservation community
  - OSU, U of O, PSU
  - Liaison to state natural resource agencies
  - Expertise in role of science in public policy

Thank you for your consideration.

Questions?